

REMARKS

1. Summary of Rejections

In the Office Action mailed June 9, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Selig, U.S. Patent No. 5,764,726 ("Selig") in view of Nakamura, U.S. Patent No. 5,943,617 ("Nakamura"). The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Selig and Nakamura further in view of Anderson, U.S. Patent No. 6,199,032 ("Anderson"). The Examiner rejected claims 6, and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Selig and Nakamura, in view of Ortiz Perez et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,469,494 ("Ortiz Perez"). However, the Examiner allowed claims 12 and 14-23.

In this Response, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 23. Claim 13 was canceled previously. Thus, claims 1-12 and 14-23 are currently pending.

For the following reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the claims, as amended.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 12 and 14-23. In allowing these claims, the Examiner described allowable subject matter as follows:

[A]ll of the above prior art fails to disclose a test host communicatively coupled to the first communication device and the second communication device, the test including:

(a) a sending component that causes the first communication device to send the first test signal into the network;

(b) a receiving component that receives the second test signal from the second communication device,

(c) a comparing component that makes a comparison of the first test signal to the second test signal; and

(d) a display that indicates the result the comparison.

(Office Action mailed June 9, 2005, pp. 6-7). Applicants note that this description of allowable subject matter uses language found in claim 23. In addition, the Examiner allowed claims 14-22, which are dependent on claim 23, and the Examiner allowed independent claim 12.

Although claim 23 is allowed, Applicants have amended claim 23 to provide clearer language in step (d). Applicants submit that this amendment in no way alters the allowability of claim 23.

3. Response to Claim Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-11, of which claim 1 is independent. In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 so that step (d) recites “the test host displaying a result of the comparison.” With this amendment, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 recites subject matter that the Examiner has already found to be allowable, as described above in Sec. 2. In particular, steps (a)-(d) in amended claim 1 recite operations of a test host that correspond to components (a)-(d), respectively, in the allowable test host.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is allowable over Selig, Nakamura, and the other prior art of record. Applicants further

submit that claims 2-11 are also allowable for at least the reason that they are dependent upon an allowable claim.

4. **Conclusion**

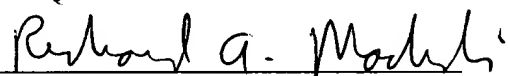
Applicants submit that the present application is now in condition for allowance, and notice to that effect is hereby requested. Should the Examiner feel that further dialog would advance the subject application to issuance, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at any time at (312) 913-0001.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:


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